

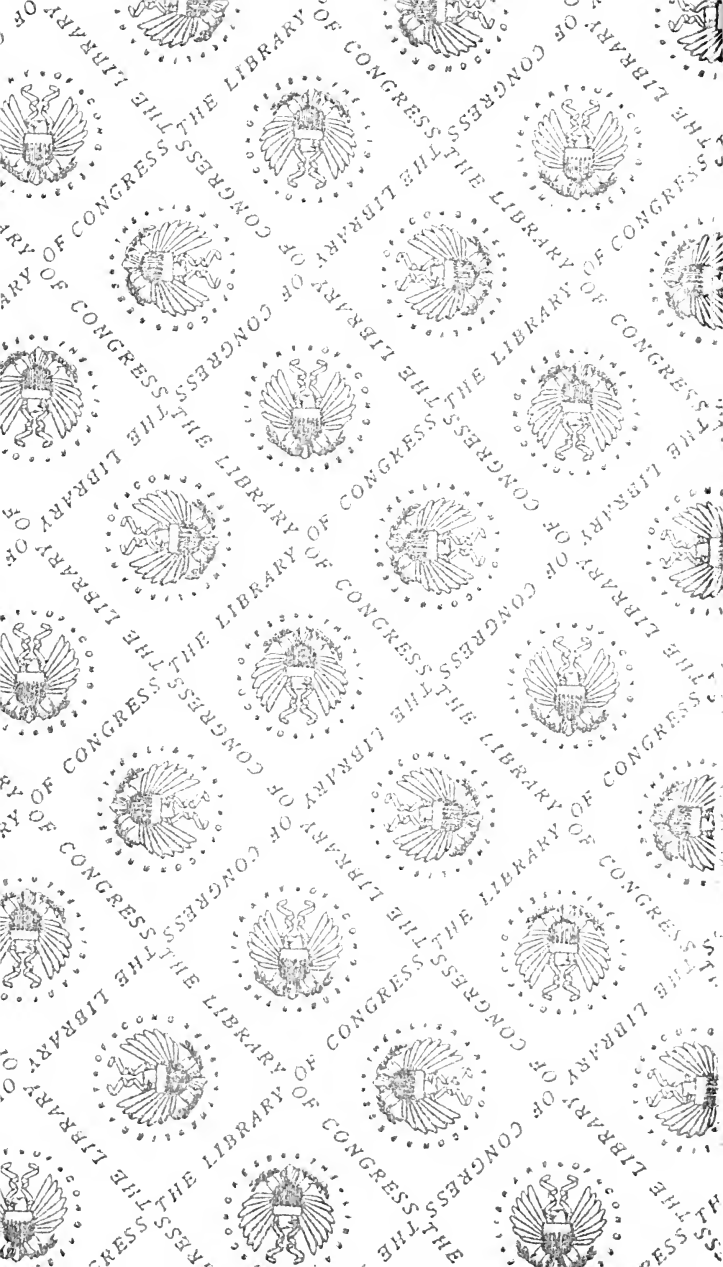
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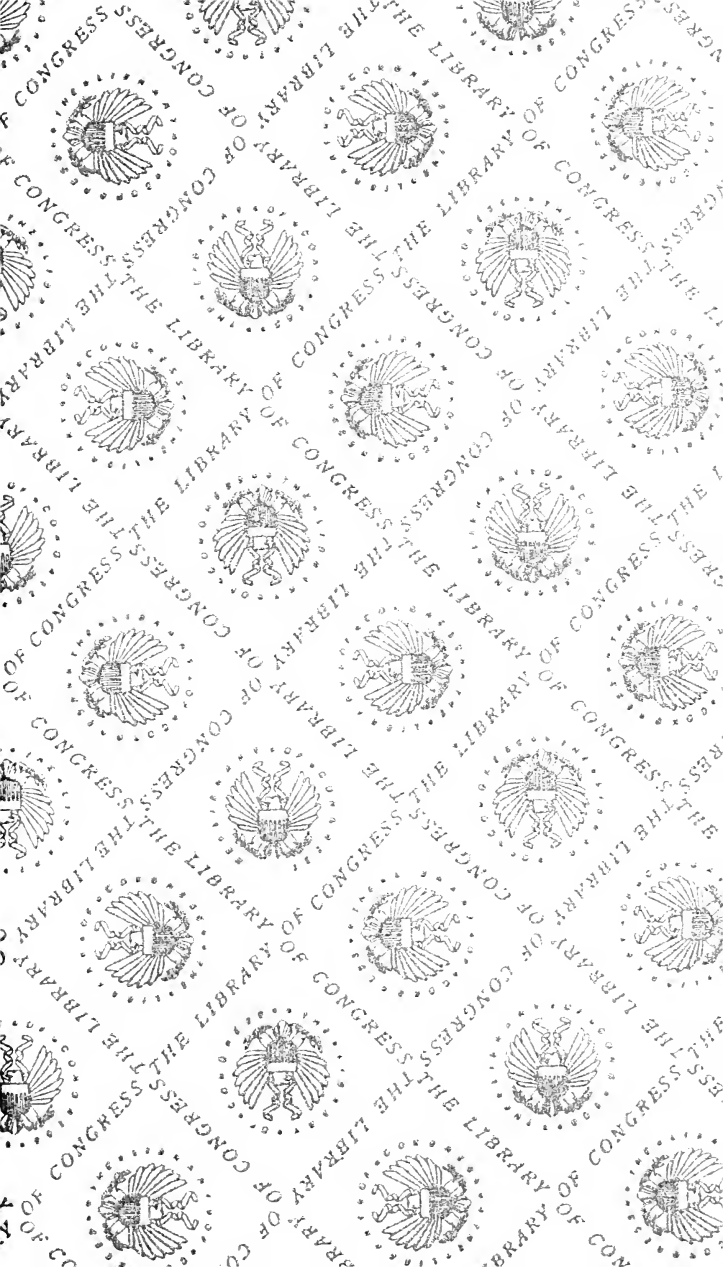
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Washington

INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL
and CIVIC FEATURES

of the

National Capital of the
United States

By GEORGE H. GALL



Issued by the

Special Booklet Committee

CHARLES W. CLAGETT - - - Chairman

ALBERT SCHULTEIS - - - Vice-Chairman

1908

Washington
Chamber of Commerce

THOMAS GRANT, Secretary

A F O R E W O R D



THE Washington Chamber of Commerce issues this booklet for the purpose of attracting the attention of the country to a phase of development of the Capital of the Nation which is far less exploited than its national aspect. As a city she enjoys more publicity than any other, but seldom are her purely local, civic features brought directly to the attention of the people of the United States. Guide books tell all about things of historic and Governmental interest and the newspapers and magazines are filled with the doings of her statesmen.

¶ The industrial, commercial, financial, educational, residential and other civic features, however, do not enjoy this wide publicity. The following pages are offered, therefore, for the information of the manufacturer or merchant who would seek a favorable place for his factory or commercial house; the careful investor in real estate; the man or woman who is seeking the best city in the United States for a permanent place of residence; the young man or woman who would acquire an education where are offered the best advantages for culture, and for the enlightenment of the visitor.

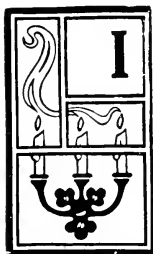
¶ The Chamber of Commerce would have Americans know the Washington of Washingtonians as they now know their own Washington, their capital city.

K. R. G. 21/10



GREAT FALLS OF THE POTOMAC

MANUFACTURES AT THE CAPITAL



INDUSTRIAL Washington—this is the side of the city's development that few Washingtonians and fewer Americans in other cities know, yet it is an important side and one destined to become much more so. A large number of serious and influential business men of the city have set themselves the task of encouraging the industries already established here and of adding constantly to their number. They are convinced that the first President's prediction that "Washington city will in time become the greatest commercial emporium of the American people" will not fall very far short of the actual fact.

\$45,000,000 INVESTED.

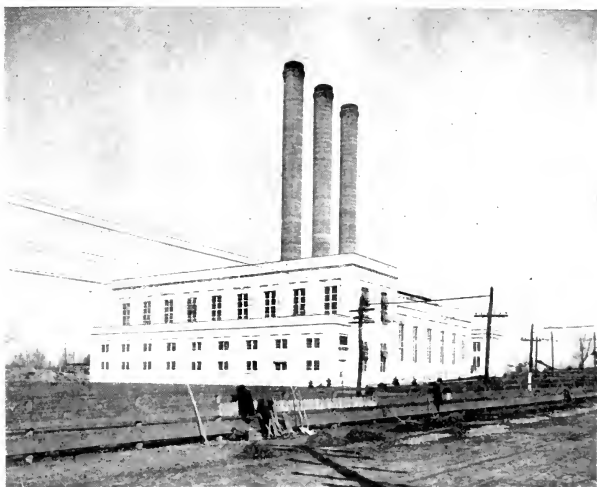
Washington is no mean manufacturing city now. Figures are not available for a period later than the year 1905, but at that time the census of manufactures for the District showed that there was invested in private manufacturing here over \$20,000,000 and in

manufactures in Government establishments nearly \$25,000,000. Here are the figures for that year exactly:

	Private	Government
Capital invested in manufacturing establishments	\$20,199,783	\$24,567,754
Salaried officials.....	1,006	478
Wage earners.....	6,299	10,982
Total wages.....	3,658,370	9,740,261
Miscellaneous expenses.....	2,724,840	4,502,090
Cost of materials used.....	7,731,971	4,295,997
Value of products.....	18,359,159	15,079,361

RAPID GROWTH.

Since these figures were compiled there has been a notable increase in the number of establishments in the District and in the prosperity of those already in existence. A



NEW POWER PLANT, POTOMAC ELECTRIC POWER CO.

great modern steel plant has been established at Giesboro Point, just within the District borders, and was put into operation last year. A large automobile factory is just starting operations in another section; a local trunk and leather goods manufacturer has so increased his business that he will move his force into a newly erected and modernly equipped factory well within the borders of the city proper providing for

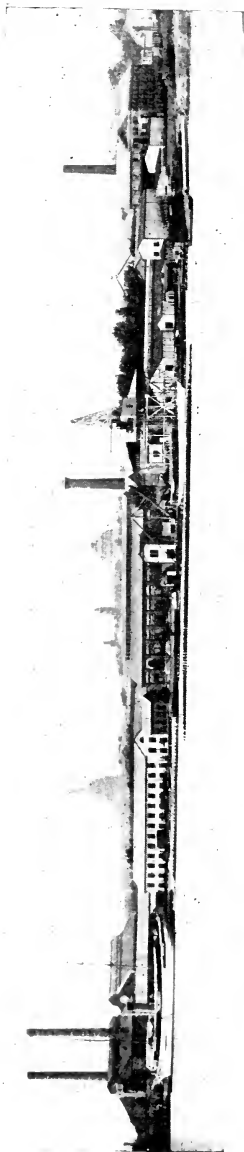
a largely increased output. A wholesale grocery business established only eight years ago is now moving part of its equipment into a factory building for the production of a large output of cider and vinegar. A paper manufacturing concern, established about the same time, has built up a trade in every part of the Union, and to meet increasing sales has more than doubled its capacity within the past year and is considering a much larger increase. A paper-box factory has been established within the past year. A clothing factory has been moved from Brooklyn to Washington and its business increased. A huge new



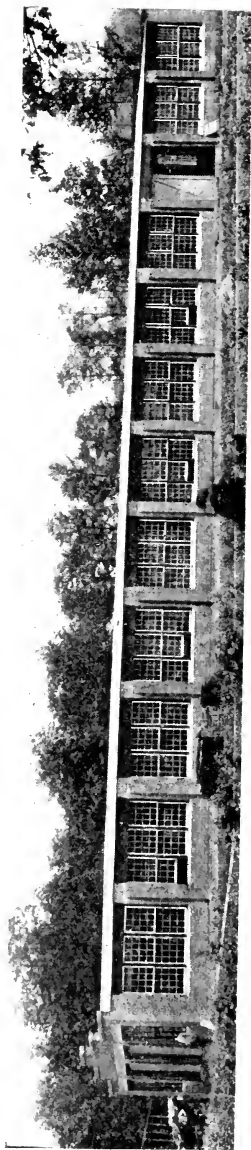
THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

electric power plant has been erected and put into operation within the past eighteen months.

Through the active assistance of the manufactures committee of the Chamber of Commerce a local pork and beef packing concern, whose output has been about \$800,000 annually, has been enabled to install a crude cotton-seed oil refining plant and increase its facilities and equipment so that the annual product henceforth is expected to reach \$5,000,000. Other evidences of purely industrial growth are numerous.



A BIG MACHINE SHOP—WASHINGTON NAVY YARD



NEW AUTOMOBILE FACTORY CARTER MOTOR CAR CORPORATION

ADVANTAGES.

It would appear, therefore, that Washington is forging ahead industrially at a rapid rate. The reasons are not difficult to discover. Excellent power facilities, an abundance of good sites at low figures, the best freight transportation facilities, low taxes, the absence of a large municipal debt, plentiful supply of skilled and unskilled labor at prices comparing favorably with those of other centers, closeness to large markets and to raw products and fuel, low cost of living, ideal climatic conditions, and absence of serious labor disturbances owing to Federal control of the District.

This is what Washington offers to prospective manufacturers. In addition to this the investor who is seeking a site for his manufacturing establishment will find in the Washington Chamber of Commerce a set of men ready to give him all possible assistance in locating and becoming established.

They have shown themselves willing to meet more than half way any projector of an industrial establishment.

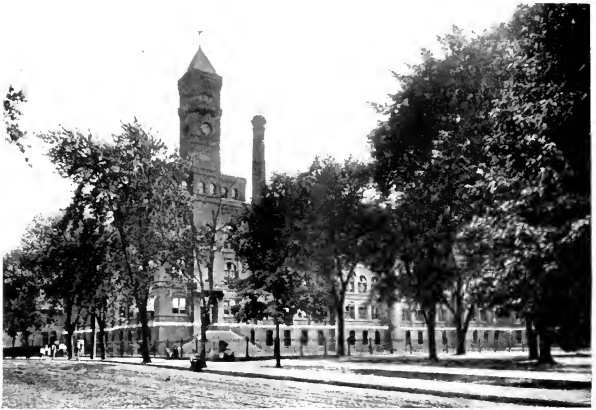
TRANSPORTATION.

The railroads of the North and South converge at Washington and the Potomac affords water transportation to all Atlantic seaboard ports. The Wabash is now projecting a line into the District and the Pennsylvania Railroad has invested \$3,000,000 in freight handling facilities on the south bank of the river. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad has also established ideal freight facilities along its main line, just north of the new Union Station and a freight line into Georgetown is projected for the near future. The trackage facilities afforded have resulted in one case, in the establishment of the largest hay house in the country, with a capacity of 200 cars. The track from the B. & O. runs directly into the structure, so that there is no expense necessary for hauling or second or third handling.

The average wages per hour of skilled laborers is shown to be lower than those obtaining in New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore. This condition also extends to unskilled labor. A population of 339,000, of which 100,000 are colored, makes all kinds of labor plentiful and cheap.

POWER.

Electric power is available for all purposes at a low cost. For the capitalist who is looking for a great field of power development the vicinity of Washington furnishes a most promising field. The Great Falls of the Potomac, twelve miles above the city, have not as yet been exploited for power purposes. It is estimated that 50,000 horse power could readily be developed from these falls and an additional 12,000 from the Little Falls a few miles below. A glance at the picture of the falls with their madly rushing waters is a suggestion of power itself.

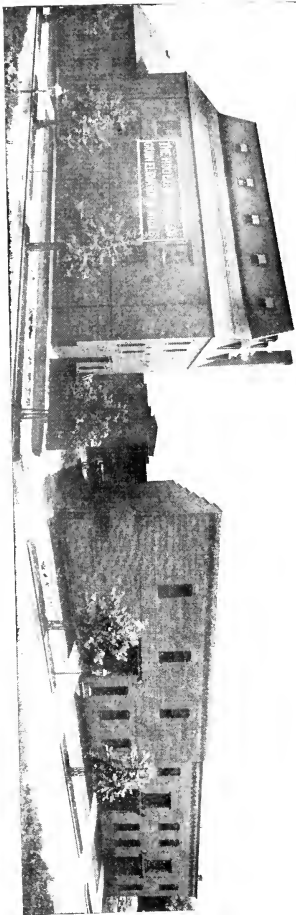


BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING

Coal is brought down from West Virginia and Maryland mines at a low cost by the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and the Government is already committed to the widening and deepening of the channel of the Potomac so as to make possible a great increase of water transportation.

Abundant cheap and accessible sites are available. On the railroads, on the water front or both hundreds of acres are to be had for factory purposes.

Senator Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, himself a captain of industry, has painted a glowing future for industrial Washington. He points out that



ELEVATOR, MILL, AND HAY
HOUSE, THE LATTER WITH
200 CARS CAPACITY



NEW PLANT OF FIRTH-STERLING STEEL COMPANY

from 20,000 to 30,000 miles of railroad terminate at the Potomac at Washington, and to the water transportation facilities. In a long interview given to the Washington Times recently he said in part:

"Washington is destined to become a great manufacturing and commercial city, rivaling Philadelphia and Baltimore, and reaping more than either of them the advantages growing out of the development of the great South. At the present depth of tide-water, all kinds of coast-wise commerce can be carried on, and even trans-Atlantic commerce will spring up. Fruit vessels from Italy and the West Indies can discharge cargoes at Washington and carry away coal and manufactured products.

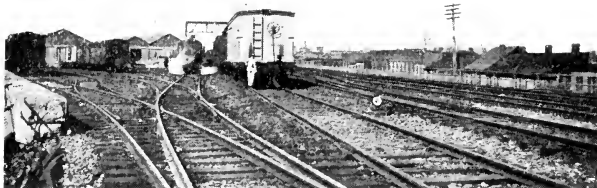


BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD CITY FREIGHT YARDS

"There is no reason why Washington should not become a greater coal distributing center than Baltimore, both by water and rail. As for manufacturing, the advantages of the south side of the Potomac, adjacent to this city, are unexcelled. All kinds of raw material can be laid down there as cheaply as at any other point on the Atlantic seaboard. The products of the entire South can be drawn there, to be worked into manufactures. Coal, lumber and cotton can be laid down there to the greatest advantage.

"This city within twenty-five years," he concludes, "will have a million inhabitants, in my opinion."

So this latter day prophet basing his observations on experience has reached the same conclusion as did Washington at the beginning of the Nation.



PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD CITY FREIGHT YARDS

FIELD FOR THE JOBBER



FOR the business man who is seeking a good place to locate a jobbing establishment Washington has a special message. Although not a well developed wholesale center, the success of those wholesale houses now established has been remarkable and every indication points to further growth. Not only is the home market large, but wholesale merchants have demonstrated in the past few years that the territory to the South and West properly belongs to them.

But the opportunity for the jobber in Washington is larger than is indicated by these facts, for Washington is not a complete market. There is room, nay, need, for jobbing houses in the following lines:

**Boots and Shoes,
Dry Goods,
Hats and Caps and
Clothing.**

With these additional establishments there would be a complete market for the country merchant. Not only would the new concerns find an immediate market both in Washington and in the South, but every other wholesale dealer in the city would benefit by their coming.

GREAT MARKET IN THE SOUTH.

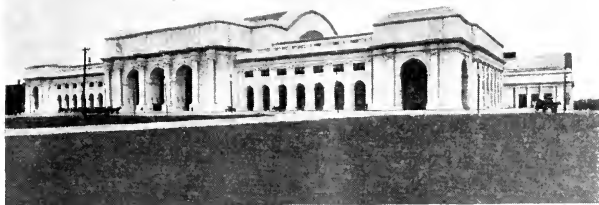
A short time ago a number of the leading wholesale houses combined to send out a "trade getting" train into Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina. The result was remarkable. One concern sold enough lard, its own manufacture, in a week to take its entire output for six weeks. Other merchants fared almost equally well, and everywhere they were assured that the country merchant would prefer to deal exclusively in Washington, provided he could obtain all his supplies, so as to avoid buying part in Washington and part in other markets farther north.

Encouraged by this success, the wholesale trade committee of the Chamber of Commerce is now planning another trade extending train to touch at thirty towns in thirty days.

There is room in this booklet for little more than suggestions concerning the commercial development of Washington. The Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and the chairman of the Wholesale Trade Committee, however, are armed with full information and will be glad to answer inquiries.

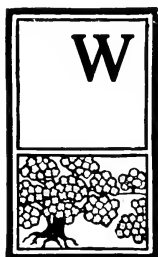


A STEAMER PIER



NEW UNION STATION

WASHINGTON A SHOPPING CENTER



WASHINGTON is a shopping town. Her department stores and other retail establishments are second to none in the country. A century as the Capital city, the home of the representatives of every country on the globe and the home for a large part of the year of residents of every State and Territory in the Union, Washington has been forced to supply the wants of every class of society.

COSMOPOLITAN POPULATION.

The needs of the most cosmopolitan population of any city in the United States have been appreciated by her enterprising merchants to such an extent that the former custom of shopping in Philadelphia and New York has for a long time been non-existent. The first lady of the land, other members of the President's family, the wives and daughters of ambassadors and ministers from every land and clime are familiar figures of an afternoon or morning in the shopping district. They walk or drive from store to store and find here all that their varied tastes or fancies dictate.

LOW PRICES.

Some may object that in order to meet the demands of such patrons prices generally must be high. Here again Washington merchants have proved their enterprise and business ability, for not only have they arranged their stocks to meet all calls, but prices are unusually low. A comparison of the page advertisements of Washington stores with those of New York or Chicago is all that is necessary to demonstrate the truth of this assertion.



G STREET LOOKING EAST FROM ELEVENTH STREET, N. W.

OLD ESTABLISHMENTS.

Many of the retail establishments are almost as old as the Capital itself and several of them boast of having as customers every President of the United States and many of the famous statesmen and diplomats whose names have long since passed into history.

So favorably has the service of many Washington stores been impressed upon officials and others who have resided temporarily at the Capital that even after leaving they have continued their patronage, sending their orders regularly for shoes, clothing, or other articles.

The stores are so conveniently situated that many shoppers prefer to walk about the shopping district rather than drive or use the street cars.

MARKETS.

The housekeeper in Washington, too, is better served than in any other large city. With many large centrally located markets where may be found the products of the farms, orchards, truck gardens of Maryland and Virginia, Florida and California, and oysters, clams and other sea food, fresh from Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic, with market stores scattered every-



SEVENTH STREET LOOKING SOUTH FROM NEW YORK AVE.

where throughout the city, Washington offers for the table the best there is to be had at the lowest prices and that more accessably than elsewhere.

So much for the information of the reader who contemplates coming to Washington to live. A word now for the reader who may be considering the advisability of going into business here.

PROGRESSIVE MERCHANTS.

The retail merchants of the city are among the most progressive citizens of the community. The Retail Trade Committee of the Chamber of Commerce is

the largest committee of that organization, having seventy members. For many years Washington merchants were content to profit by the custom of residents of the city, a large, increasing population of large and constant purchasing power. The government with its great payroll of steadily employed and regularly paid servants has served to produce an un-failing market for the merchant.

OUT-OF-TOWN SHOPPERS.

Last year, however, a few leaders realized the opportunities for greatly increasing the volume of business and through the Retail Trade Committee an active campaign was started to induce the residents of the three surrounding States to come to Washington to do their shopping, offering to refund railroad fares, provided a certain amount of purchases were made from the houses represented in the membership of the committee. This plan proved immediately successful, bringing trade from the farthest towns and cities in Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland. The opportunity of an occasional visit to the Capital, combined with that of purchasing supplies from the well-stocked houses of Washington merchants, proves an attraction too strong for resistance by hundreds of persons within a radius of 150 miles.



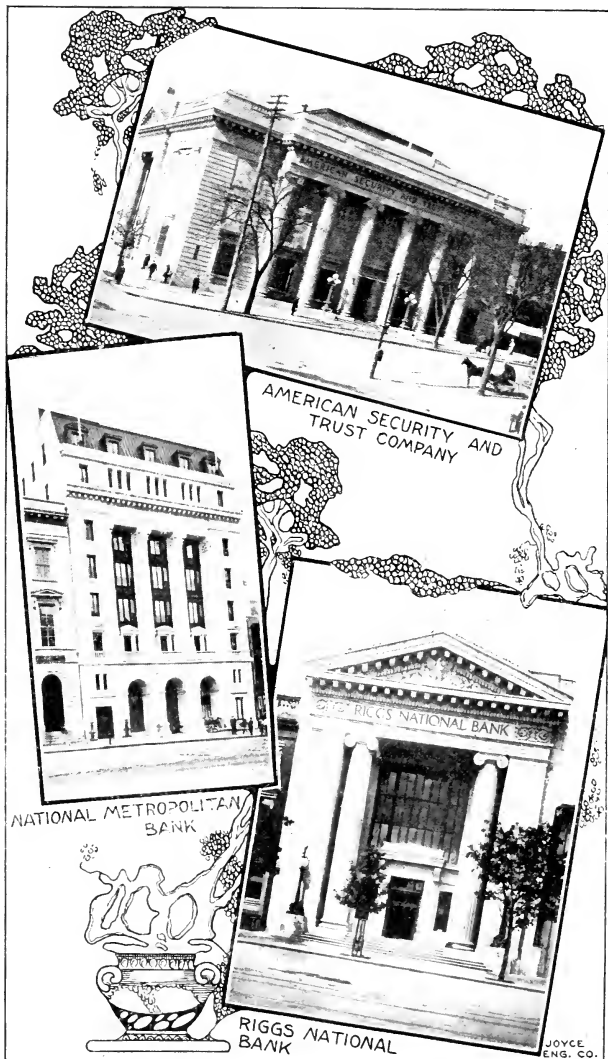
PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE LOOKING NORTHWEST FROM SEVENTH STREET



COLORADO BUILDING

REMARKABLE GROWTH.

The business history of the largest retail establishments of the city reads like fiction. One of the largest department stores commenced business fifteen years ago in a one-story, twenty-foot front store, with but a few clerks, and handling dry goods only. To-day their establishment occupies nearly an entire city block, part of the building being four-stories and part five-stories in height. Their stock includes everything that can be found in the most diversified department store, they employ thousands of clerks and the counters are always lined with customers. What is said of this establishment is hardly less true of many others.



A GROUP OF CLASSIC BANK STRUCTURES.
ALL FACE THE U. S. TREASURY AND HARMONIZE ARCHITECTURALLY
WITH THAT BUILDING.

STRONGEST BANK CITY



APPLY peculiar in many respects Washington differs from other cities of the United States no more favorably than in her financial equipment and strength. In stability no stronger proof of her excellence could be offered than the experience of the Capital city during the recent panic and financial stringency as compared to the less favorable experiences of other communities.

While banks were failing and exchanges suspending business in other centers no bank of any character in Washington failed or was even embarrassed. The confidence of the public was so great in local institutions that not the slightest uneasiness was at any time evident. The only indications here that money was scarce were a slight increase in interest rates and a natural conservativeness in making large loans.

UNIQUE ADVANTAGE.

The pre-eminent advantage Washington has over other cities in respect to her financial institutions is that they all are under the direct supervision of the Comptroller of the Currency. So far as openness to Government inspection is concerned and consequent safety all the banks at the Capital are on as sound foundations as National banks. In 1907 a savings bank was closed by order of the Comptroller, whose office assumed immediate charge of its affairs. The Comptroller's administration disclosed the fact that it was in a sound condition, and every stockholder and depositor received dollar for dollar within a surprisingly short time.

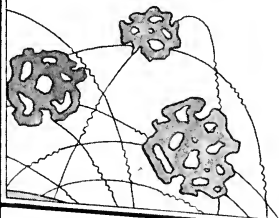
The writer is indebted to Mr. J. Clinton Ransom, financial editor of the Washington Herald, for a clear and complete compilation of the condition of the Washington banks and trust companies at the close of business, May 23, 1908. It is here given.

Statement of city's financial institutions at close of business, May 23, 1908:

RESOURCES.				
ITEM.	NAT'L BKS.	SAVINGS BKS.	TRUST Co.'s.	TOTALS.
Total assets.....	\$46,438,616.96	\$11,567,859.73	\$32,358,193.47	\$90,364,670.16
Loans and discounts.....	18,996,722.33	5,265,890.64	19,255,138.42	43,517,751.39
Reserve	4,099,239.25	257,837.81	996,712.53	5,353,789.59
U. S. bonds to secure circulation.....	4,942,200.00	—	—	—
To secure U. S. deposits.....	275,000.00	—	—	—
Other bonds to secure U. S. deposits.	5,053,792.25	—	—	—
Bonds and securities on hand.....	2,549,734.66	1,547,123.01	3,722,804.15	7,819,661.82
Checks and cash.....	135,138.08	41,179.81	125,444.98	301,762.87
LIABILITIES.				
ITEM.	NAT'L BKS.	SAVINGS BKS.	TRUST Co.'s.	TOTALS.
Capital	\$5,202,000.00	\$1,298,891.00	\$8,000,000.00	\$14,500,891.00
Surplus	3,861,000.00	229,100.00	2,600,000.00	6,690,100.00
Undivided profits.....	623,765.70	112,947.29	948,867.22	1,685,580.21
Notes issued.....	4,763,000.00	—	—	—
Individual deposits.....	21,781,098.09	9,460,938.92	20,223,568.95	51,465,605.96
Government deposits.....	4,195,422.26	—	—	—
Due other institutions.....	3,755,896.58	146,845.00	500,100.30	4,412,841.88



WASHINGTON LOAN & TRUST CO



AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK



HOME SAVINGS BANK

WASHINGTON LOAN AND TRUST CO., NINTH AND F STREETS, N. W.;
 AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK, THIRTEENTH AND F STREETS, N. W.,
 AND HOME SAVINGS BANK, SEVENTH STREET, N. W., AT
 INTERSECTION OF MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW YORK AVES.

BANK STOCKS STRONG.

Another indication of the excellent condition of Washington banks is the strength their stocks show on the local exchange. The stock of one of the National banks is quoted at six times its par value, and the stock of only one institution, and that, one which has been in existence scarcely a year, is quoted a few points less than par.

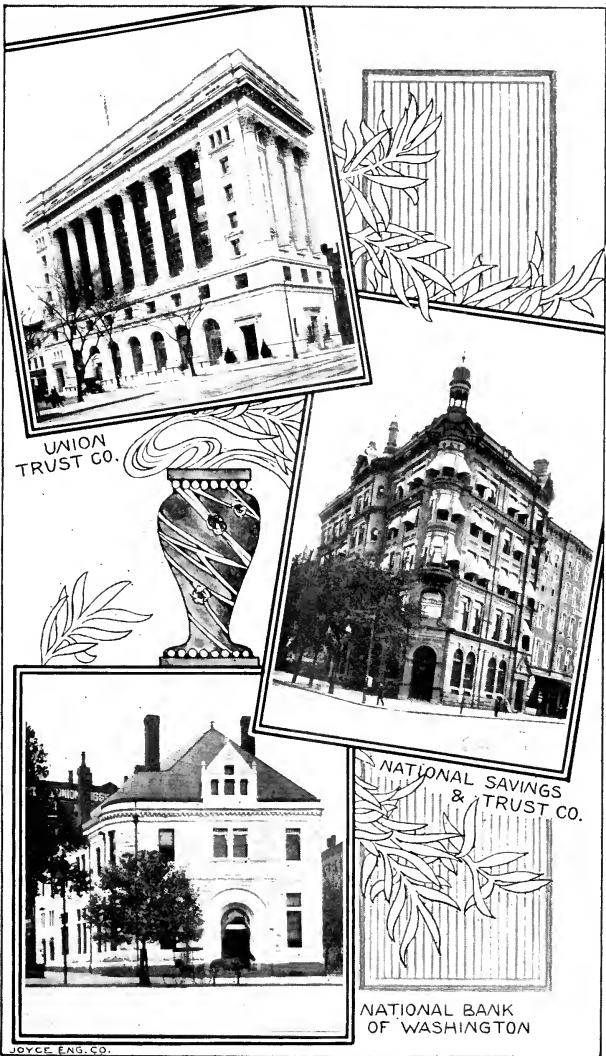
Washington financiers have been quick to see the necessity of better organization when conditions demanding change arose. Many mergers of banks have been satisfactorily accomplished in late years, and not only the banks themselves benefited by the economies ensuing, but the service resultant has been bettered. There are now eleven National banks, fourteen savings banks, five trust companies and two other large banks that are not exactly in any of these classes, though more nearly National banks than either of the other two.

The banking houses of local financial institutions are noteworthy. The architecture of one National bank and that of two trust company homes are among the best examples of business architecture in the country.

Prospective investors, capitalists seeking a location for new industries or other business ventures, or those contemplating residence at the National Capital need no further showing of facts concerning Washington banks to convince them that Washington affords financial advantages not excelled elsewhere.



CAPITAL TRACTION CO.—MT. PLEASANT CAR BARNS

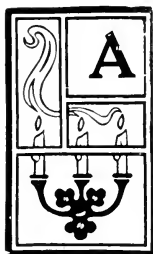


THE UNION TRUST COMPANY'S BUILDING IS A NEW WHITE GRANITE STRUCTURE. THE OTHERS ARE TWO OF THE OLDER BANKS OF THE CAPITAL



NEW DISTRICT BUILDING

THE DISTRICT GOVERNMENT



FIRST inquiry by the person who is seeking a new home for himself, his factory, his business or profession is "How is the town governed?" Washingtonians are always eager to have this question asked, that they may answer it.

It is the opinion of most citizens of the District of Columbia that the District has the best municipal government in the United States. Henry B. F. Macfarland, president of the Board of District Commissioners, thus clearly explains its form:

ITS FORM.

"Congress is the legislature of the District of Columbia. Its executive government, under the Act of Congress of June, 1878, is a board of three Commissioners, appointed by the President of the United States, two from civil life, always of opposite politics, and one an engineer officer of the Army, of high rank,

to whom the board intrusts the immediate direction of all engineering and construction work. The Commissioners appoint practically all the other officers and employes of the District Government. The Commissioners have power from Congress to enact municipal legislation in the form of health, police, building, and other regulations. They represent the District before Congress, where the committees dealing with District affairs and making District appropriations confer with them as to all District measures. The President submits to the Commissioners all bills connected with the District which have passed Congress before he passes on them."



WHITE HOUSE TREASURY DISTRICT BUILDING
VIEW NORTH FROM TOP OF WASHINGTON MONUMENT

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

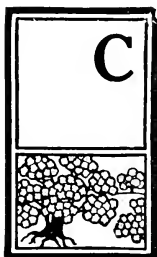
In a recent speech Mr. Macfarland set forth the results of this form of government. He said: "The people of the District of Columbia know that the absence of partisan politics in the District has made its government purely a matter of business, and that it has been carried on with absolute honesty, with conspicuous efficiency and economy, and in accordance

with its official motto, 'Justitia omnibus.' There has been no suspicion of mal-administration, of corruption, or of blackmail."

ITS NEW HOME.

On the Fourth of July, 1908, as the first forms of this booklet were being printed, the citizens of the District celebrated the formal opening of the first permanent home of the District Government. Near the head of broad Pennsylvania avenue, occupying an entire square it stands, a brilliantly white marble palace, built at a cost of \$2,500,000, a monument to the dignity and beauty of the District of Columbia.

BUSINESS MEN'S ORGANIZATIONS



CHIEFLY on account of the peculiar form of government in the District of Columbia Washington differs considerably from other American cities in respect to the character of her organizations among business men.

The Chamber of Commerce with about 500 members, is more like the trade organizations of other large cities than is any other body here. It was formed in the spring of 1907 by the merging of the Business Men's Association and the Jobbers' and Shippers' Association, two bodies whose functions were similar. The new organization was born of a general demand on the part of business men for the extension of Washington's trade and the development of industries and of a conviction that one body could accomplish greater results with less expense than two.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The organization is an admirable one for this purpose, and during its existence has already done much toward the ends sought. Its committees on manufactures, wholesale trade, retail trade and conventions are accomplishing much, while its committees on mu-

nicipal legislation, law and legislation and schools have been instrumental in shaping legislation affecting the District. The last named committee by an active campaign during the last session of Congress succeeded in defeating proposed legislation that would



BOND BUILDING

have had a revolutionary effect upon the local public school system. The bill failed to pass the Senate, where it originated, because, to quote a member of the Senate committee, the opposition of the Washington Chamber of Commerce was so forceful and earnest.

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The other organization, the Board of Trade, is an older one, established in 1890, and has a membership of about 700. The name is misleading, however, for its members do not claim for it commercial or industrial functions. It is rather a large citizens' committee, which has been the forum for expression of enlightened public opinion. The Board of Trade has concerned itself almost entirely with matters of public improvement, and points with justifiable pride to a long record of accomplishments of this nature. There is, however, a strong movement afoot to merge with the Chamber of Commerce, in order that all possible friction may be eliminated and unnecessary duplication of efforts be avoided. Committees from both bodies have already arrived at conclusions favorable to such a change.

The citizens of many sections of the District have formed a score or more of sectional "citizens' associations," through which they are enabled to set before the Commissioners and Congress the measures desired for their several localities.

By these means the people of the District, even though they have not the franchise, are enabled to impress upon the authorities in a forceful way their needs and desires.



THE SPEEDWAY

FAVORITE CONVENTION CITY



IN THE newly born determination to make the most of Washington's many opportunities the subject of inducing national and international organizations to hold their conventions here has received especial attention upon the part of her business men. Until the present time Washington has been content to take the good things that have been coming her way without endeavoring very strenuously to increase their number.

According to the last annual report of the Board of Trade thirty-seven conventions were held in this city in the year beginning November 26, 1906. In one week in the month of May, 1908, no less than six conventions were held, several of them holding sessions at the same time in different hotels or halls. All these conventions have come to Washington without so much as an invitation on the part of the local business organizations. It is now realized that if this be the case, which is undeniable, many more organizations can be induced to hold their conventions at the Capital, if only the advantages of the city for that purpose are made known to them and the information coupled with an invitation.

WASHINGTON ADMIRABLY ADAPTED.

The needs of organizations incident to conventions are good passenger transportation facilities, hotel facilities, convenient places in which to hold sessions, good publicity facilities and, not unimportant, pleasant surroundings.

Washington supplies all of these requisites and offers much more. A city that can easily handle the enormous crowds of visitors that throng the streets every four years, at the inauguration of the President of the United States, is patently equipped to care for, both in railroad and hotel accommodations, any special gathering at other times. Washington hotel men have become accustomed to quick expansion and contraction of business. The coming and departure of Congress with the thousands dependent upon its sessions and the large number of conventions which have been coming to the city in recent years have served

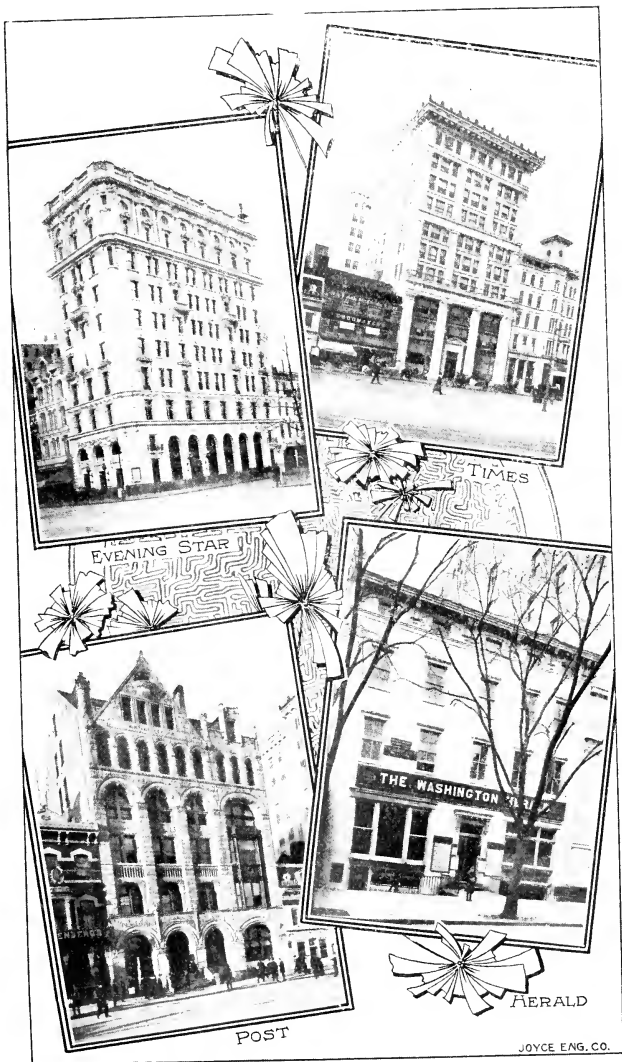
to make irregularity in numbers at depots and hotels the regular thing. A host of meeting halls of various sizes are always available and, for unusually large gatherings, there is a convention hall, with seating capacity of 6,000 and standing room capacity of 10,000. Two conventions of considerable proportions were recently held in a single hotel, with no confusion in session halls, banquets or accommodations.

As to publicity facilities, there is no greater news distributing center in the United States. Correspondents representing not only all of the daily newspapers of the country and many of the foreign journals have their offices in Washington, but even the technical and trade publications have their contributors and regular correspondents at the Capital.

PLACES OF INTEREST.

In pleasant surroundings for the visiting delegate and his wife, or daughter, who often accompany him, Washington far excels any other city of the country. It is the custom for delegates to conventions here to use much of their time in seeing the hundreds of interesting and beautiful places in and about the city by means of the "Touring Washington" automobiles, upon which guides point out, as the trip proceeds, the places of especial historical interest. Then there are many side-trips. Mt. Vernon, the home of George Washington, is reached both by steamer and trolley; Alexandria, Cabin John Bridge, Arlington and old Annapolis, the site of the United States Naval Academy, are easily accessible by trolley cars. To the last place and to Baltimore there is a new line of heavy interurban electric cars, which travel so fast that the trip to either place is made in shorter time than by the steam roads. Washington itself, the city beautiful, is a constant delight to the visitor, and the Government departments hold thousands of features of interest to every American and many features of special interest to delegates to conventions..

The Conventions Committee of the Chamber of Commerce believes that every national convention would come to Washington, if members of organizations but knew the advantages she holds over other cities in this respect, and it now proposes that members of organizations throughout the country shall know them.



THE HOMES OF THE FOUR WASHINGTON NEWSPAPERS



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

GREAT EDUCATIONAL CENTER



THE first President of the Nation predicted that Washington would become a great commercial emporium, he also wished earnestly that it would become the educational center of the new Republic. If the prediction has not as yet become true, at least his wish has been gratified. Washington is now the scientific and educational center of the country.

To realize how accurate this statement is it is only necessary for the reader to consider the facilities and resources here, not only for scientific research and higher learning, but also for secondary training.

MANY LIBRARIES.

There are in Washington thirty-four Governmental libraries open to the public for research, with over 2,000,000 books and pamphlets and over 500,000 other literary articles, manuscripts, maps, music and prints. This is exclusive of the contents of the Public Library, a gift to the District from Andrew Carnegie, and the libraries of private associations and institutions. According to Dr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress, we have a "total not merely greater than

is to be found in any other city of this size in the world, but which in proportion represents several times as many volumes per capita as exists for public use in any other city of the world." Of course, the Library of Congress is the greatest of these institutions, containing over 1,100,000 books and pamphlets and nearly 500,000 other articles.

The Library of Congress building itself is the proudest building of its kind in the world and furnishes the student an inspiration by its beauty of architecture and interior decoration. As a place for study and research it is unequaled in convenience for the student. With a corps of courteous and able librar-



GEORGETOWN COLLEGE

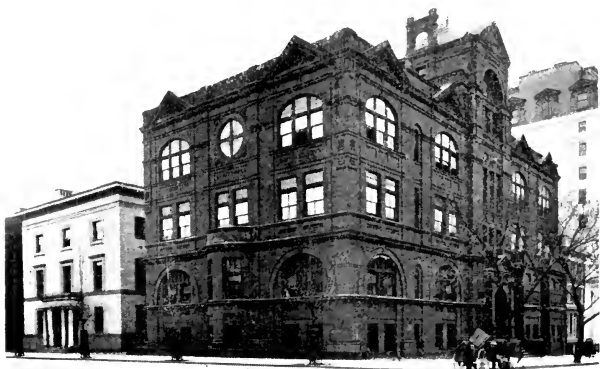
ians and its wealth of material and facilities for quickly obtaining almost anything that may be called for the Library of Congress is the ideal workshop of the searcher into the realm of literature.

MUSEUMS AND LABORATORIES.

The Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum (for which there is now building a magnificent new home), the Army Medical Museum, the Bureau of Standards, the Naval Observatory, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the laboratories of the Department of Agriculture and the other various departmental mu-

seums and laboratories form a wealth of apparatus for the student which, of course, cannot be found elsewhere.

The statistical bureaus of the Census office, of the bureau of Labor, of Commerce, are also notable sources of information free of access at all times to the public. To show the city's pre-eminence in one branch of research, for example, it is only necessary to point out that there are eighteen chemical laboratories attached to Government departments not to mention the facilities afforded by the universities of



GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, MAIN BUILDING AND LAW SCHOOL

the city. By Act of Congress of April 12, 1902, these laboratories are accessible, under certain regulations, to the scientific investigators of the country and to students of any institution of higher education incorporated under the laws of Congress or of the District of Columbia.

LEARNED SOCIETIES.

The effect of these advantages and facilities has been to bring together in Washington notable scholars, who have formed organizations, themselves an important factor in the educational advantages of

the Capitol. In this connection may be named the Washington Academy of Sciences, and its fourteen learned affiliated societies. The American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Archeological Institute of America and the American Institute of Architects have their offices in Washington.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

Dr. Mitchell Carroll, an eminent educator and professor in the George Washington University, in speaking of these great advantages at the Capitol says:

"It is natural that Washington should be the center of the scientific and educational activities of the country. The Carnegie Institution is the great promotor of scientific research; the Smithsonian Institution is the great disseminator of knowledge; the Library of Congress is the great storehouse for the world's learning and the universities and educational institutions of the city are training men and women to enter into an appreciation of the intellectual life in all its phases. Not to speak of the efficient public school system nor of the seventy or more private schools that attract boys and girls to Washington from all parts of the country, there are in Washington eight colleges and universities, seven professional schools of law, three of medicine and dentistry, and three of theology.

"In these institutions there is an aggregate of 476 professors and instructors and over 3,500 students, making Washington one of the most important university towns in the country. To mention them by name, there are the three colleges, Gallaudet, Gonzaga and St. John's; and the five universities, Georgetown, George Washington, Howard, the Catholic University of America and the American University, which has already a beautiful site, with two buildings erected and which will begin regular university work when the endowment fund has reached \$5,000,000.

"All of these institutions are doing excellent work and are disseminating the intellectual influences of the Capitol city throughout the country. Of these the one that bears the name of the Father of his Country has inaugu-

rated the George Washington University Movement, the aim of which is to realize George Washington's desire for a great university of international importance at the seat of Government. To this end it has already raised considerable funds for the purchase of a new site and has undertaken large plans which will lead in time to successful fruition."



MCKINLEY MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

The Catholic University of America is now the great Catholic seat of learning in the United States, and the Methodists of the country are aiming to make the American University the center of learning for the youth of their denomination.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

A word should be added about the public school system. The public schools of Washington are under the care of Congress, which has committed itself time and again to the policy of making the District of Columbia the model municipality of the country. A board of education presides directly over the school affairs, but its members serve without compensation and are appointed by the justices of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia.

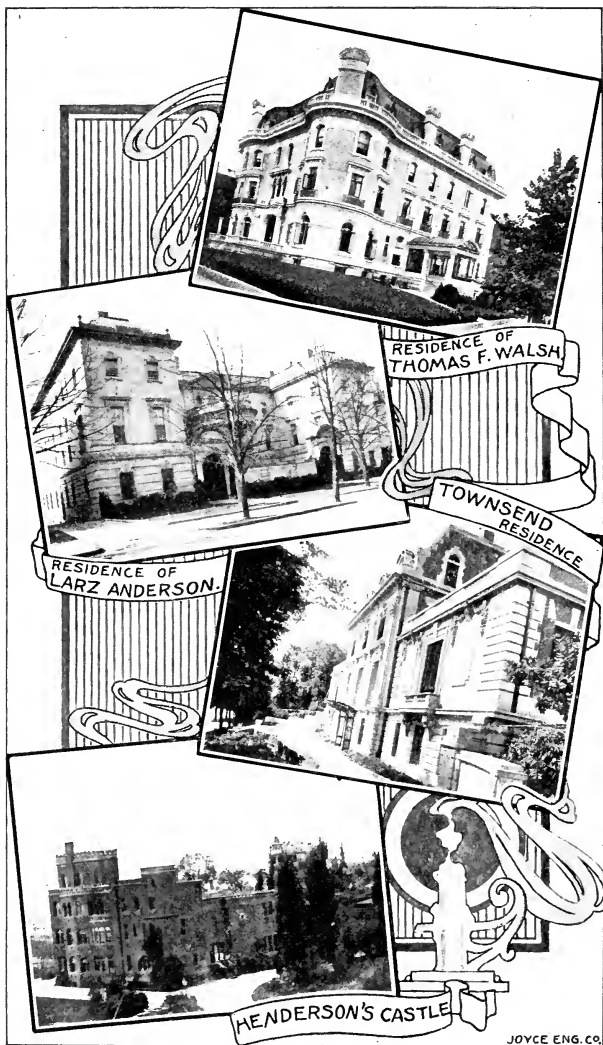
With this system there is no possibility of politics entering the schools. All appointments are made as the result of examination and special fitness and even the "pull" of members of Congress avails little.

There are about 50,000 children and 1,500 officers and teachers in the public schools. The white and colored pupils and teachers are separated, having distinct school buildings.

The system of instruction ranges from kindergarten to that of preparation for the colleges and universities, and for teaching. In the High School division there is, besides the regular classical High Schools, a Business High School and a Technical High School, for the purpose of specially training students who intend going into business after graduation, or who are fitting themselves for the higher technical institutions of learning. The schools are so good that the President of the United State is sending his son, Quentin Roosevelt, to them although there are several scores of good private institutions in the city.



BUSINESS HIGH SCHOOL



THREE UPPER VIEWS ARE OF MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE RESIDENCES. HENDERSON'S CASTLE IS ON SIXTEENTH STREET, OVERLOOKING THE NORTHWEST PORTION OF THE CITY

IDEAL PLACE OF RESIDENCE



BOOK exclusively devoted to a description of the thousands of features which go to make Washington the ideal residential city of the country would be more appropriate in treating the subject than merely the brief review here possible. Many such, in fact, have been written and can be found in any public library, and there is no end of articles of value and interest in periodical literature. The charms of Washington for the resident can here be only suggested.

Around the great central fact that Washington is the Capital of the Nation are grouped most of the reasons why the city has become the ideal residence community of the country. Washington reflects the greatness of a great people and the high aesthetic and intellectual ideals of the most enlightened nation of the earth.

SOCIETY OF THE CAPITAL.

The society of the Capital is the best example of this representativeness. Here are gathered men and women typifying the best in their respective communities, and not only is every section of the country thus highly represented, but every nation of the earth also sends its quota of diplomats, citizens selected from the best minds of the nations. Then, too, attracted by this great gathering of brilliant people another large class of persons, which is constantly growing larger, those who have acquired large fortunes and who are now seeking the most pleasant surroundings, has come to Washington. They have built hundreds of magnificent residences and, for the most part, made the city their permanent home.

Two other important classes combine with the official, diplomatic and wealthy to make the society of the Capital most desirable. These are the hundreds of men and women of achievement in the fields of science, art, and literature, who have found Washington a happy place of residence, and the large contingent which has grown up from within, rather from without,

a modest, solid body of citizens who are proud of their city and wide-awake to all her interests.

It is hardly needful to say that with this extraordinary citizenship there has been provided the best of churches, theatres, clubs and amusements.

The city's charities have also been highly organized and are now administered from a central body whose agents are closely in touch with all needs. Funds for the several charities are placed in charge of this central body, whose board of directors is composed of many of the most highly esteemed men and women of the community.

STREETS AND TREES.

The physical features of Washington are pleasingly impressed upon the visitor the minute he enters the city through the new Union Station. This superb structure, which has now cost about \$17,000,000, was opened in October, 1907. It is an enormous white pile set in a wide plaza, facing the Capitol three blocks distant. A writer in "Collier's" remarks that Washington is now the "head of the list of the world's great capitals in the dignity of her treatment of arriving and departing guests."

With this first favorable impression the visitor passes on to his hotel or other destination through wide, smooth and delightfully shaded streets, getting glimpses here and there of classic Government structures. Practically all streets and avenues are paved with asphalt and the trees along the curbs and sometimes, too, in double row down the center are by no means limited to the residence portion, but extend everywhere.

ARCHITECTURE.

The splendid Government buildings, hotels and office buildings, are, of course, always a delight to the lover of good architecture, but the residence sections of the city and the suburbs hold the chief attractions. Diversity of architecture is notable and even where long rows of houses are necessary the architect has introduced a variety of fronts obviating the monotony common to the residence architecture of many large cities. Leading architects have recently

expressed the opinion that in all forms of structures Washington is now showing the highest forms of architectural design and leading every other American city in this respect. From the pretty bungalow in the suburb to the mansion of the millionaire on Massachusetts Avenue or Sixteenth Street the same artistic tendency is evident.



THE FRENCH EMBASSY

PARKS.

Public parks, ranging from a few hundred square feet to square miles in area, literally dot the entire District. Triangular, square, or circular plots of green embellished with beautiful trees and beds of flowers are seen at most intersections of streets and diagonal avenues. The circles are notable, for here are placed the scores of heroic statues commemorating men and events prominent in the history of the nation. There are many larger spaces, occupying one or two city blocks densely shaded and carefully kept for the enjoyment of those who remain in their city homes throughout the summer. Band concerts by the various military bands and the famous United States Marine Band are given in them nearly every evening during the season.

The larger parks are the Mall, a wide stretch of grass and trees connecting the Capitol with the Washington Monument; Potomac Park, a large tract of land made by dredgings from the Potomac and now grown over with graceful willows and greensward, the Soldiers' Home grounds, and the great Rock Creek Park, stretching for miles through the northwest section of the city. Within the last reservation is the Zoological Garden with its notable collection of the world's fauna gathered for the National Museum and containing strange gifts of potentates of Africa and Asia.

The Park Commission's plans for the artistic treatment of the Mall and contiguous territory now seems certain of ultimate fulfillment. This is a pretentious project to carry out the original plans of L'Enfant and Washington for the city, and steps in this direction have already been taken by Congress in locating the new buildings for the Senate and House of Representatives, for the National Museum and the Department of Agriculture and finally in placing the splendid Grant Memorial in the Botanic Garden at the Capitol end of the proposed avenue to be formed by the Mall.

In the city's parks the Department of Agriculture has done much to make them beautiful and interesting. Plants and trees from all lands and climates have been brought here and cultivated. Some of the parks, particularly the grounds in the Mall, the Capitol grounds, the White House grounds and the park opposite the White House, are filled with so many varied specimens that they are now almost botanic gardens. The trees are labeled with their scientific and common names, so that the public may profit by the experiments of the Department.

TRANSPORTATION.

All parts of the city and suburbs are of easy access by reason of an excellent system of street-car lines. Fares are low, Congress having stipulated that six tickets shall be sold for a quarter and that these tickets shall be good over all lines and constitute a fare anywhere within the District. In June, 1908, the Interstate Commerce Commission was given direct supervision over all the street-car lines, making the only



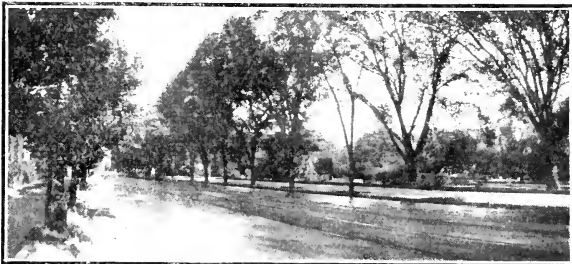
A PARK SCENE



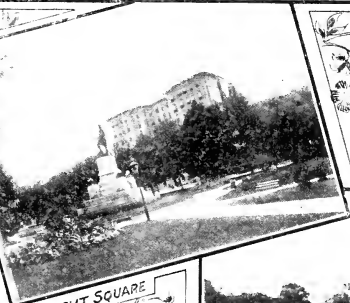
LAFAYETTE PARK.



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ONE SQUARE FROM
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FARRAGUT SQUARE



BOTANIC GARDENS

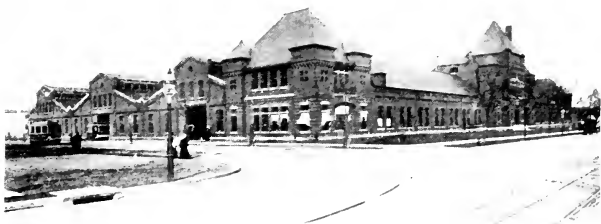


OVER 5,600 ACRES IN THE DISTRICT ARE DEVOTED TO PARKS
AND ALL ARE UNDER THE CARE OF THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

municipal traction property in the country directly governed by the Federal Government. Years ago all trolley lines and poles were done away and even telegraph and telephone wires are now underground, eliminating the unsightliness of this feature of modern city development entirely from the streets of the District

CLIMATE AND HEALTH.

The climate and healthfulness of the community are also important and notable features. For an all-year-round delightful climate Washington probably is not excelled by that of any other city. Not unusually hot in the summer, its springs and falls are exquisite and its winters mild and full of sunshine, while the streets are scarcely ever disfigured by slush or snow. Indeed,



WASHINGTON RAILWAY AND ELECTRIC CO.—TERMINAL STATION

the city on this account has come to be known as a regular winter resort by a large temporary population.

In healthfulness the vital statistics show that the death rate is about 15 per thousand of white and 28 per thousand of colored population. An efficient District health department assisted by the Federal officials of the Marine Hospital Service maintains a strict watch over the health of the community. The water supply has been greatly increased in volume and purity by the installation at large cost of a great filtration plant, and an excellent system of sewerage extends over the entire District. Hospital facilities are adequate and there has just been finished and put into

operation a municipal hospital for tuberculosis patients that is expected to prove a model institution for other cities.

“WHAT OTHERS SAY.”

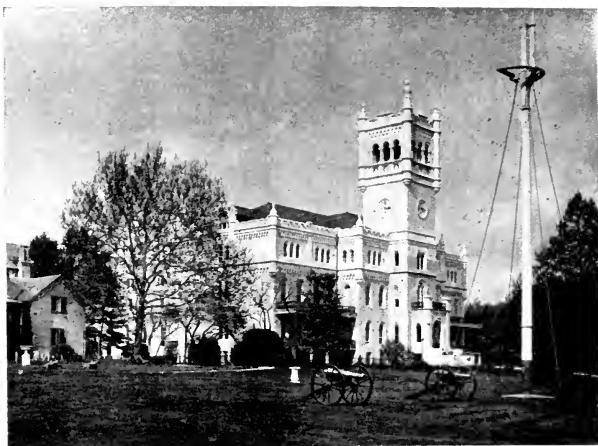
But it is unnecessary to sound our own praises. Americans elsewhere are constantly doing it. In a recent editorial in the “Boston Transcript,” commenting upon the last police census figures which showed an increase of 10,000 population for the year, the editor explained the growth of the Capital in part as follows:

“More and more it attracts as residents, persons seeking homes where the climatic conditions constitute for the greater part of the year ‘the just medium.’ Such feel the charm of Washington, a place which possesses all the urban conveniences and facilities, and yet is free from the jar, noise, confusion and congestion of great cities.”

And again, Henry E. Reed, director of exploitation of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition is quoted as saying that “One reason why the Jamestown Exposition fell so flat was that great numbers of people found Washington too attractive to bother with seeing the fair.”



A PARK STREAM



THE SOLDIERS' HOME

ITINERARY FOR TOURISTS



HERE are two great piles of marble in Washington which are seen by every incoming tourist long before the train itself reaches the station. The Capitol and the Washington Monument stand out high and white from the buildings below. Every American who has not been in Washington knows them from their pictures, and strangers at their first visit rarely have to ask the names of the structures.

Of the two the Capitol excites first interest usually, and tours of the Government buildings and other places of interest may well be commenced there. The Capitol stands at the head of Pennsylvania avenue, northwest, and from it radiate the streets marking the four divisions of the city. It is available by all car lines and is open to the public from nine until half after four, while Congress is not in session, and during session practically all of the time.

THE CAPITOL.

The hall of the House of Representatives is in the south wing and the Senate chamber in the north. The

galleries of both are open to the public during sessions of Congress. At that time also cards of admission to the reserved galleries may be had by simply requesting them from your Representative or from your Senators.

The room used by the Supreme Court of the United States, the old Senate Chamber, is in the Senate wing of the building and is usually open to visitors. There are many things and places of interest in the Capitol, and guides are always to be found in the rotunda who may be hired at nominal fees to conduct the tourist through the building and explain the different interesting features.

A BRIEF GUIDE.

A description of any of the buildings or other places of interest is not the function of this pamphlet, but an itinerary is laid out for the convenience of the traveler into whose hands it may come. The Capitol is regarded as the starting point, and it will save time to follow the route as here given. The hours during which the public buildings are open to visitors are also given.

The Library of Congress, opposite the Capitol, is open to visitors from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m.; Sundays, 2 to 10 p. m. The Senate and House office buildings complete the square between the Capitol and Library.

The Government Printing Office is at the corner of North Capitol and H Streets, Northwest. Visitors will be conducted between the hours of ten and two o'clock.

The Treasury is located at Fifteenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest. Open to visitors from nine to two. Guides are furnished between the hours of 10.30 a. m. and 12 m.; and 1 and 2 p. m.

The White House, Sixteenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The East Room of the White House is open to visitors from ten until two

The State, War, and Navy Building, Seventeenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. Open to visitors between nine and two.

The Corcoran Art Gallery, one block below the State, War and Navy Building, at the corner of New York Avenue and Seventeenth Street. Open from nine-thirty to four. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays an admission fee of 25 cents is charged. Other days are free. Sundays free, open from 1.30 to 4.30 p. m.

The Washington Monument, elevators run every half hour, commencing at nine; last trip at four o'clock; 555½ feet high. A bird's-eye view of the city can be had from the windows at the top.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing, at Fourteenth and B Streets, Southwest, is where paper money and stamps are made. Visitors are personally conducted between the hours of nine and three, with the exception of the time between 11.45 and 12.30 o'clock.

The Department of Agriculture is in the Mall, just east of the Monument, between Twelfth and Fourteenth Streets, Southwest. Two new buildings on either side of the old building have been recently completed. Buildings and hot houses are open to visitors from nine to four-thirty.

The Smithsonian Institution is in the Mall, between Tenth and Twelfth Streets, Southwest. This contains the Government's collections of specimens of natural history. Open 9 a. m. to 4.30 p. m.

The National Museum adjoins the Smithsonian Institution, between Eighth and Tenth Streets, Southwest. This contains relics and objects of interests of all kinds, collected by the Government since its foundation. A new building for the museum is nearing completion on the north side of the Mall, just opposite the old structure.

The Army Medical Museum, in the Mall, at the corner of Seventh and B Streets, Southwest, is entered from the B Street side. Open from nine to four-thirty.

The Fish Commission, Sixth and B Streets, Southwest, is open from nine to four. The building contains specimens of all kinds of live fish. From this place a car can be taken directly to the Patent Office, located at the corner of Seventh and F Streets, Northwest. This building is open from nine until two. The large building on the square bounded by Seventh, Eighth, E, and F Streets, is the General Land Office of the Interior Department.

The Pension Office, between F and G, Fourth and Fifth Streets, Northwest, the building in which the Inaugural Ball is held, is open from nine until four.

The Lincoln Museum, 516 Tenth Street, Northwest, is the house in which Lincoln died. He was shot in the old Ford Theatre, just across the street. Open all day.

The Post-office Department is at the corner of Eleventh and Twelfth Streets and Pennsylvania Avenue, North-



U. S. CAPITOL

WASHINGTON

MONUMENT

WHITE HOUSE



CAPITOL,, WEST FRONT, WASHINGTON MONUMENT AND WHITE HOUSE

west. The building contains the Dead Letter Office and museum, and also a museum on the first floor, showing all methods of handling mail in the United States and its possessions. Open from nine until two.

The large white building at the corner of Fourteenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue is the new District Building, in which is housed the government of the District of Columbia. It was opened July 4, 1908.

The above list includes the places of public interest in the central part of the city, but there are many others on the outskirts and in the suburbs which the visitor should not omit. Among them are the Navy Yard, the Marine Barracks, the Soldiers' Home, the National Zoological Park, Mount Vernon, the home and tomb of George Washington, Alexandria, the National Cemetery, at Arlington, and Fort Myer.

INTERESTING SUBURBS.

Then, there are many suburban resorts which combine pleasant trips with scenic beauty and historic interest. Cabin John Bridge, the longest single-span stone arch in the country; the Great Falls of the Potomac, Chevy Chase Lake, the Franciscan Monastery, Falls Church and Fairfax and Marshall Hall are all available by trolley or steamer. Trains to salt water on Chesapeake Bay, at Chesapeake Beach, run frequently. Every evening in the summer there are delightful trips down the river to Indian Head and return without stop, and a new excursion line has been opened this year which puts Baltimore and Annapolis and the U. S. Naval Academy practically in the same category as the other places mentioned. Fifty-ton electric cars leave Fifteenth and H Streets, Northeast, every half-hour for both cities, and the city street-cars transfer directly to them.

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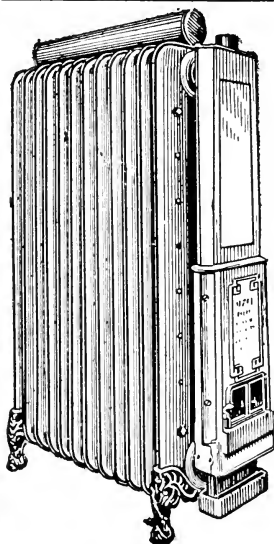
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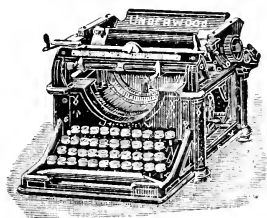
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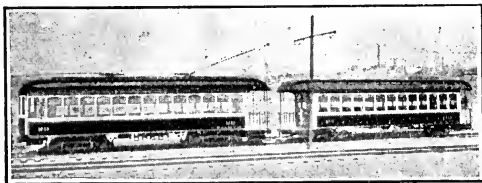
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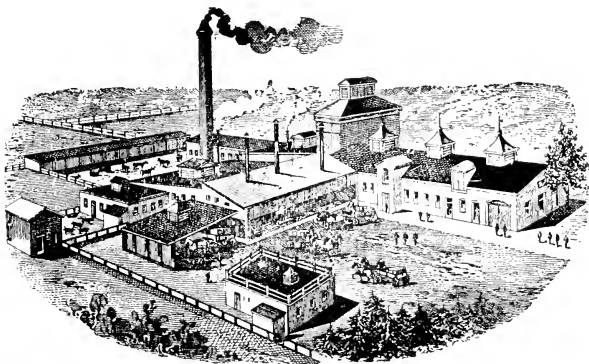
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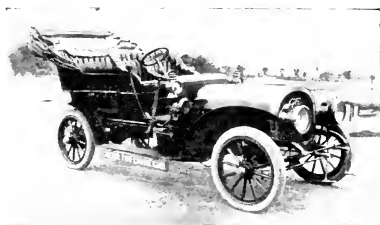
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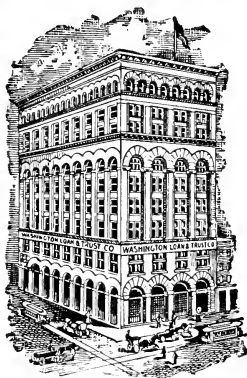
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